AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~PTC~~ An electrical component having a positive temperature coefficient, the electrical component comprising:

[[-]] ~~with~~ a base ~~body (8) comprising stacked~~ comprised of ceramic layers and electrode layers, the electrode layers separating adjacent ceramic layers, ~~(4) that are separated from one another by electrode layers (5), wherein~~ the ceramic layers ~~(4) contain~~ comprising a ceramic material that has a positive temperature coefficient in at least one part of ~~the~~ an R/T characteristic curve; and ~~line,~~

[[-]] ~~wherein the electrode layers (5) are contacted alternately with~~ a first collector electrode ~~electrodes~~ ~~(6)~~ attached to ~~the sides~~ a first side of the electrical component and a second collector electrode attached to a second side of the electrical component, wherein the first collector electrode and the second collector electrode contact alternate electrode layers;

[[-]] ~~with~~ wherein the electrical component has a volume V and ~~an ohmic~~ a resistance R, the resistance R being measured between ~~the~~ collector electrodes at a temperature of between 0° C and 40° C[[,]]; and

wherein[[:]] $V \bullet R < 600\ \Omega \bullet mm^3$.

2. (Currently Amended) The electrical component ~~according to~~ of claim 1, ~~which is manufactured by sintering~~ wherein the ceramic material comprises ceramic green sheets, the ceramic green sheets being sintered with the ~~(1) and~~ electrode layers to form the base ~~(5) together in one operation~~.

3. (Currently Amended) The electrical component of claim 1 ~~according to one of claims 1 or 2~~, wherein at least some of the electrode layers ~~(5) contain~~ comprise tungsten.

4. (Currently Amended) The electrical component of claim 1 ~~according to one of claims 1 through 3~~, wherein at least some of the electrode layers ~~(5) contain~~ comprise tungsten carbide.

5. (Currently Amended) The electrical component of claim 1 ~~according to one of claims 1 through 4~~, wherein the electrode layers ~~contain~~ comprise WO.

6. (Currently Amended) The electrical component of claim 1 ~~according to one of claims 1 through 5~~, wherein at least some of the electrode layers ~~contain~~ comprise a tungsten compound that contains ~~where the~~ tungsten ~~has~~ having a valence less than +6.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~Method for the manufacture of a PTC component according to claim 1 with the following steps:~~ A method of manufacturing an electrical component having a positive temperature coefficient, the electrical component comprising:

(a) a base comprised of ceramic layers and electrode layers, the electrode layers separating adjacent ceramic layers, the ceramic layers comprising a ceramic material that has a positive temperature coefficient in at least one part of an R/T characteristic curve, and (b) a first collector electrode attached to a first side of the electrical component and a second collector electrode attached to a second side of the electrical component, wherein the first collector electrode and the second collector electrode contact alternate electrode layers, wherein the electrical component has a volume V and a resistance R, the resistance R being measured between collector electrodes at a temperature of between 0° C and 40° C, and wherein $V \bullet R < 600\ \Omega \bullet mm^3$,

wherein the method comprises:

~~a) production of a layer stack from~~ forming the base using ceramic green sheets ~~(1) with interposed~~ interspersed with the electrode layers, the ceramic green sheets comprising the ceramic layers ~~(5)~~; and

~~b) binder removal~~ removing a binder from, and sintering, ~~of a layer stack~~ the base in an environment ~~atmosphere with a lowered~~ having an oxygen content ~~in relation to~~ that is lower than an oxygen content of air.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~Method according to~~ The method of claim 7, wherein the oxygen content of the ~~atmosphere~~ environment is less than 8 vol. %.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~Method according to one of claims 7 or 8~~ The method of claim 7, wherein removing the binder ~~removal~~ is performed at a temperature of < 600° C.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~Method according to one of claims 7 through 9~~ The method of claim 7, wherein sintering is performed in a temperature interval of between 1000° C and 1200° C.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~Method according to one of claims 7 through 10~~ The method of claim 7, ~~wherein the~~ further comprising, after removing the binder, keeping a temperature of the ~~layer stack~~ base ~~after binder removal is kept~~ at a value ~~corresponding~~ that corresponds to a ~~at least to the maximum debindering~~ binder removing temperature at least until sintering is ~~has been~~ completed.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~Method according to one of claims 7 through 11~~ The method of claim 7, wherein removing the binder ~~removal~~ is performed in an environment with an oxygen content of between 0.5 and < 8 vol. %.

13. (Currently Amended) ~~Method according to one of claims 7 through 12~~ The method of claim 7, wherein sintering is performed in an environment with an oxygen content ~~corresponding~~ that corresponds to ~~the~~ an oxygen content that is present during removal of the binder ~~removal~~.

14. (Currently Amended) ~~) Method according to one of claims 7 through 13~~ The method of claim 7, wherein sintering is performed in an environment with an oxygen content of between 0.1 and 5 vol. %.

15. (Currently Amended) ~~Method according to one of claims 7 through 14~~ The method of claim 7, wherein the oxygen content of the environment is decreased after the binder is removed ~~is further decreased after binder removal~~.

16. (Currently Amended) ~~Method according to one of claims 7 through 15~~ The method of claim 7, wherein the oxygen content of the environment is reduced continuously ~~lowered~~ after the binder is removed ~~removal~~.

17. (Currently Amended) ~~Method according to one of claims 7 through 15~~ The method of claim 7, wherein after the binder is removed ~~removal~~, the oxygen content of the environment decreases ~~is decreased~~ with increasing temperature.

18. (Currently Amended) ~~Method according to one of claims 7 through 17~~ The method of claim 7, wherein the oxygen content of the environment increases ~~is again increased~~ after a maximum sintering temperature is exceeded.

19. (Currently Amended) ~~Use of a component according to one of claims 1 through 6 as~~ A SMD-capable PTC resistor element comprising the electrical component of claim 1.